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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: S-9-5

On 09/19/2006  
By [Signature]  
Brian Szymczak

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

David Hovda et al.

Application No.: 10/799,491

Filed: March, 12, 2004

For: **APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR  
TREATING CERVICAL INTER-  
VERTEBRAL DISCS**

Examiner: Lee S. Cohen

Art Unit: 3739

Response to July 19, 2006 Office Action

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is responsive to the Office Action mailed July 19, 2006 setting a one-month deadline for reply. Applicants hereby petition for a one month extension; the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the required extension fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0339.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3.

The Remarks begin on page 7.



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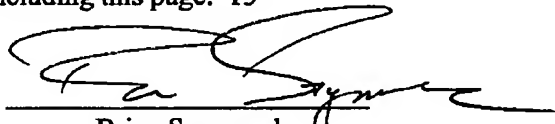
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